

9-24-2007

## The Hilltop 9-24-2007

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 **82**  
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# THE HILLTOP

The Daily Student Voice of Howard University

VOLUME 91, NO. 19

WWW.THEHILLTOPONLINE.COM

Monday, Sept. 24, 2007

**MONDAY  
Notebook****BREAKING NEWS**

**SEN. HILLARY CLINTON SAID SHE WON'T VOTE FOR ANY FURTHER FINANCING TO SUPPORT THE FOUR-YEAR-OLD IRAQ WAR WITHOUT A WITHDRAWAL PLAN, ACCORDING TO CNN.COM.**

**CAMPUS**

**STUDENT SHARES HER LIFE EXPERIENCES WITH PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE BARACK OBAMA OVER DINNER.**

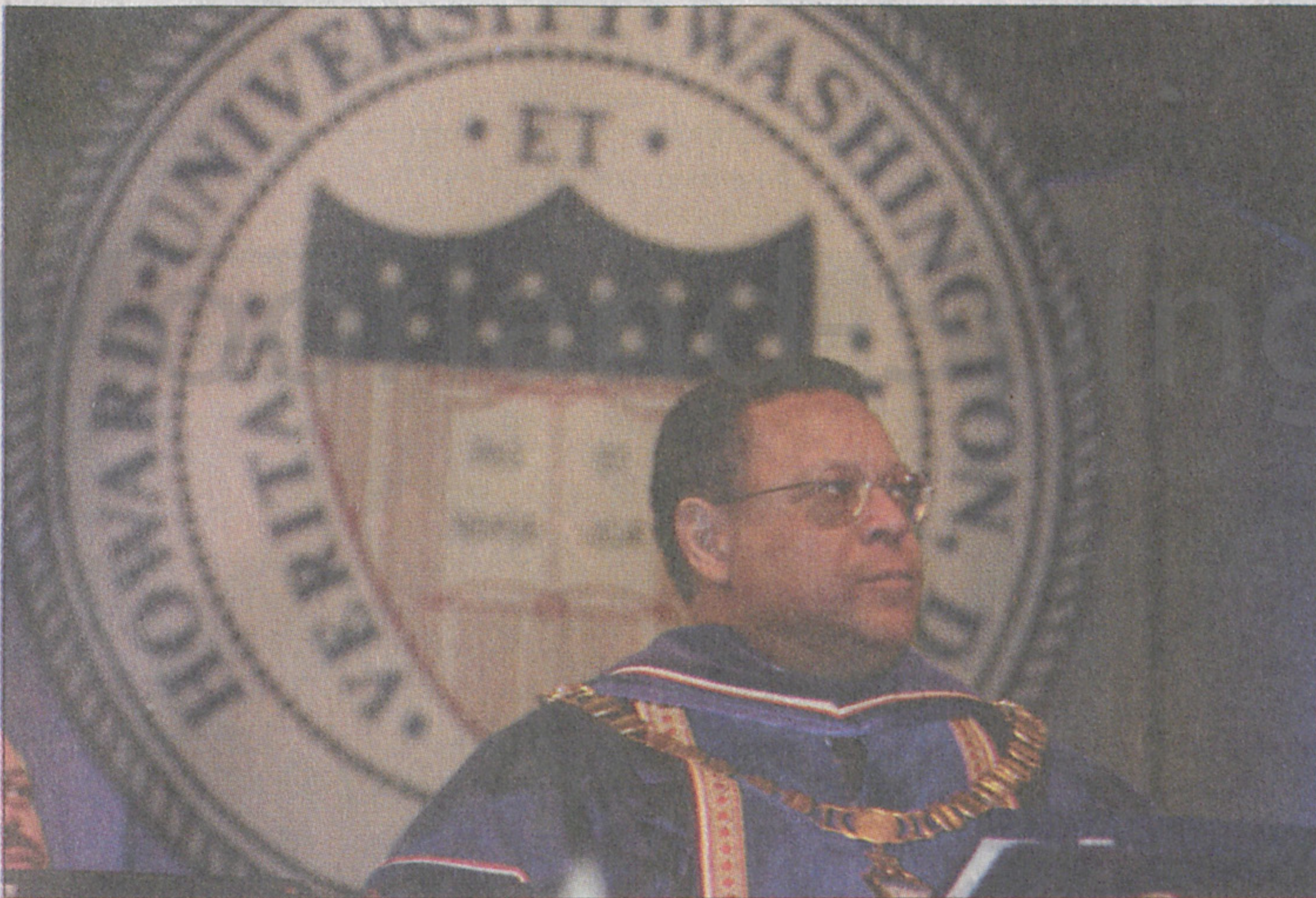
**SPORTS**

**FIND OUT WHICH BISON TEAM WON THIS WEEKEND, SECURING THE FIRST HOWARD ATHLETIC VICTORY OF THE YEAR.**

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PAGE 8

## Search Begins for New President



President Swygert has served Howard University for the past twelve years and will retire at the end of the year.

BY SHIVONNE FOSTER  
Staff Writer

As President H. Patrick Swygert's 2008 retirement approaches, the Howard University presidential search committee, is striving to select a new president of the university.

The composition of the committee was announced Thursday in a letter to the university community from chairman of the board of trustees, Addison Barry Rand.

The presidential search committee consists of members from the Howard community, some whom serve on Howard's board of trustees, as well as some outside of the university community. General Colin Powell, former U.S. Secretary of State, Richard Parsons, Time Warner

CEO and Dr. Ruth Simmons, Brown University president, will lead the committee in its charge to secure a new president for the committee.

Barry Rand will not be available for comment until later this week, but Howard students have been voicing their opinions and concerns about the transitional period since Swygert announced his retirement in April.

"The student body hasn't been included in the initial stages of the process to find a new president," said Corey Daniels, junior finance major.

Daniels explained that he is very interested in who will be ushered in to the office by the committee, and believes a change may be good.

The letter did, however, highlight listening tours the board began conducting over

the summer. The tours surveyed key stakeholders in the university. In the letter, Barry Rand added that so far, members of the board have consulted with, "representative groups of faculty, students, staff, alumni, former officers of the university, and media personalities who are HU family members."

"These unstructured, informal sessions have provided us with great insight," Barry Rand said. "Based on these discussions, I believe we share a common vision of Howard University's great potential, and we are bonded by a deep passion and love for the university."

In the letter, Barry Rand said that the university community, students included, can look forward to surveys, town hall meetings and focus groups and alumni meetings

across the country, all to gather community input.

According to the letter, the search committee is seeking an individual "with the vision and leadership skills to advance Howard University's distinguished legacy of excellence," to fulfill the position of president.

The search committee has acknowledged the importance of keeping the Howard community informed as it takes on the endeavor of guaranteeing operational effectiveness, continuity and execution of the presidential search and selection process.

In the effort of creating an effective presidential leadership transition, the search committee has established a board transition committee to work with the new president and the university administration to make certain that short-term decisions are aligned with long-term strategic objectives.

Another objective of the transition committee is to ensure that constant focus remains on enterprise priorities and their timely execution.

The university has correlated its efforts with Nathaniel Sutton, managing partner of the Heidrick & Struggles Education and Nonprofit practice to search for a new president.

According to its Web site, the practice specialized in the search of chief, board and senior-level management positions for everything from non-profits and foundations to educational institutions.

Presidential nominations may be submitted to Howard University Presidential Search Committee, P.O. Box 90961, Brentwood Station, Washington, DC 20090.



Jason Arthurs - Raleigh News & Observer (MCT)

Supporters came from all over the nation to rally against injustice in Jena.

## Racial Tension in Jena Began Before Fight, Nooses

BY ALEESA MANN  
Staff Writer

News of the Jena Six first broke when three nooses were hung from a tree in a racial hate crime in August 2006, but ask Louisiana natives, and you will hear a story of years of racial tensions.

"This situation has been growing for about two years," said a law enforcement officer in Alexandria, La., a town just outside of Jena. "Basically, what you have is six black students and three of them are superstars, football players with scholarships to Texas A&M, UCLA, Michigan and LSU, especially [Mychal] Bell. He was quarterback...and he had a lot of white people's daughters all on him, dating him. [A lot of people] didn't like it, and the end result is what just happened."

The controversy in Jena began to make headlines since the incident started but picked up this past summer. Since then, the Jena Six have gained nation-wide eminence and support.

The individuals and families involved in the Jena dispute were unaware of the enormity that the conflict would take on. Carwyn Jones, one of the Jena Six, was relatively popular among his peers, and according to his family, had never expressed any concern over racially incited incidents at Jena High School.

"We figured that it was just going to be a school fight, and [Carwyn] would just be suspended or put in in-school suspension," said Yalanda Jones, Carwyn's sister. "We never did think the charge

would be as high as they were."

"[Carwyn] didn't even know because at first he didn't have any charges on him at all," Wanda Jones, Carwyn's mother, said. "They didn't have anything on him, and about thirty minutes later the detective called and asked me to bring him back, they came up with, so they claim, some accusations."

Carwyn spent about two weeks in jail and, as a result of the accusations brought against him, was unable to graduate and lost all his scholarship opportunities. In a show of support, his friends and classmates held him an honorary graduation ceremony. He is now working offshore with family members and is currently completing paperwork for McNeese State University in Lake Charles, La. where he hopes to attend school next semester.

"I am sorry for what happened to the young man and to the family," said his mother in reference to the fight with fellow Jena High School student Justin Barker. "But these boys have served time because they lost everything they had an opportunity to do. The ones that are left now can't even get into school, they can't finish at all."

According to Carwyn's sister, some of the Six's families have tried to enroll their sons in schools in districts other than LaSalle Parish, but were refused. "Some of the Jena Six aren't in school because they're being denied their education in LaSalle Parish," she said.

> See **JENA**, Page 3

## Mo'Nique Brings Laughs to Cramton

BY ROYCE STRAHAN  
Staff Writer

Actress/comedian, Mo'Nique, was the headliner at Cramton on Friday night for her comedy show that was "One Night Only." Rodney Perry, comedian and co-host on TV One's hit show "Who's Got Jokes" with actor/comedian Bill Bellamy was the opening act for Mo'Nique.

Mo'Nique gave the crowd their monies worth delivering her usual "keep it real" style of comedy and coming out for a curtain call after finishing her performance. Mo'Nique talked about everything from her family life to relationships, joking that sometimes women go too far when pushing their significant others to the edge. She even joked about a time in her life when she went too far

with a boyfriend and it resulted in disaster.

It was evident the crowd loved Mo'Nique's performance, when they kept chanting her name after she had left the stage. During her curtain call, Mo'Nique encouraged the students in the crowd to dream big and aspire to do what they had a passion for.

Comedian Rodney Perry was excited before the show about performing at Howard for the first time and having such a wonderful experience since he'd been at our school. "This is my first time at Howard and my second time being in D.C. and so far the experience here has been incredible. The people here have been nothing but professional," Perry said. "Usually dealing with black folks...they don't do you right so you really



Photo Courtesy of www.google.com

> See **MO'NIQUE**, Page 3

Mo'Nique's style captured the audience.

## Yahoo! Mashs Up New Online Social Networking Site

BY MARCUS BIRD  
Cartoonist

Mark Zuckerberg has Facebook. Tom Anderson has MySpace. Both of these Web sites, in their own ways, have forever revolutionized the way people communicate socially. After a poor showing with his first attempt at a site called Yahoo 360, Yahoo CEO Jerry Yang is ready to hop back into the fray with a new Yahoo social networking site - Mash.

The novelty of a social networking site lies in its customizations and the options it gives to its users. Like its predecessors, Facebook and MySpace, Mash promises to deliver something new, which

is a customizable user interface that other members can freely manipulate. A person using Mash can create profiles for their friends who are not even members of the service.

Will Aldrich, the head of Mash's development team, said on their official blog that this utility runs akin to the thought of "first round's on me," meaning after members make profiles for friends, they can then adjust the profiles accordingly at a later date.

Like the News Feed on Facebook, Mash has a Pulse feature, which shows regular updates on the happenings of everyone within a network. The use of modules like RSS feeds, pictures and other data allows members to "mash"

this data onto their page.

Biology graduate student Devan Martin is curious about Mash. "I'm a heavy Facebook user, but I'm always interested in seeing if there is something else coming around," he said. "I had MySpace before and then Facebook came along and blew it away. Who knows what might happen with this site?"

Senior physical therapy major Dale McNeal was not as optimistic.

"I go back and forth between MySpace and Facebook, but I don't think I'd personally want to go through the trouble of adding all my friends to a new service," she said.

With Yahoo being one of the largest Internet search engines, processing

about 28 percent of all Internet searches made, analysts wonder if Mash is a strategy to get some increased market share. With a boom in its stock prices earlier this year, beating rival Google in the first quarter of the stock market, Yahoo could be poised to make a comeback. With most of its profits made from searches, Mash could be a tool to expose members to other features that Yahoo offers.

The Yahoo Web site currently has limited information on the new Mash site, but after a single phone call, a Yahoo customer service representative, Chloe, explained a few things about Mash thus far.

"There isn't much we can tell you about Mash right now, as it is in beta

mode," she said. "Right now, you can only join by invitation, but you can always follow up on the progress of its development on our main Web site, by searching for 'Yahoo Mash.'"

The beta mode of any flagship software is the slower, more buggy version that developers use to test the market. With Facebook estimated to have 39 million members and MySpace tagged at 67 million, as technology changes and Yahoo pushes forward, everyone will have to wait and see if anyone will be "mashing it up" anytime soon.

Regular updates on the progress of the site and its capabilities can be seen on Mash's official blog.



# Student Breaks Bread With Obama, Shares Experience

BY DANA SUKONTARK  
Staff Writer

Devoid of straight-laced, stock political jargon, 2008 presidential candidate Barack Obama sat down for a conversation over dinner with four people, one being 19-year-old Brittany Washington, a junior political science major at Howard University.

Washington, who supports Obama in his candidacy for president, describes him as "very friendly, polite and personable," not seeming like a politician at all during their Labor Day dinner at Martha's Exchange Restaurant in Nashua, N.H.

"He seemed like one of those political science majors that enjoy talking about politics and making changes,"

said Washington, who considered herself "pretty cool" for meeting Obama.

Those potential changes were the primary topics of conversation for Washington and the other three attendees, who were chosen for this unique opportunity based on money they donated, as well as a short blurb written about issues that concern them and a personal story about each entrant.

Washington's story was a very personal one, describing the loss of her mother this past July to breast cancer, which she felt Obama could genuinely relate to, due to the loss of his own mother to ovarian cancer.

"During that process, I dealt with a lot of trouble from the health care system," Washington said, who names health care as both an interest and a ma-

jor concern to her.

Obama listened closely to Washington's concerns as well as the other attendees', which ranged from one woman's worries about some parents who couldn't afford to take care of autistic or otherwise disabled children to an Operation Iraqi Freedom war veteran discussing problems getting medical coverage.

"He really opened it for us to talk. He was like, 'Do you have anything you want to ask me? Any concerns, any issues?' We went back and forth discussing different issues concerning our lives," Washington said. "I was glad to be able to talk to someone about the situation I dealt with with my mother, to be able to vocalize that to someone who could do something about it."

While enjoying tilapia and salad

sans onions, Obama listened attentively, according to Washington, never giving any canned answers while also promising to look into the issues at hand and find out more information about them.

"It was refreshing not to hear a bunch of promises," Washington said, of Obama's casual, genuine, politically atypical ambience.

Washington admired Obama's presence at the dinner, which followed a multitude of activities, such as an ice cream social, rally and parade.

"He would get out of the car every fifty feet to give hugs or sign autographs," she said.

"Being a politician is hard work," Washington said after observing Obama's hectic schedule. "The amount of stuff he was doing was ridiculous. If

it was me, I would have been like, 'I'm tired, I'll see them tomorrow.'"

Recalling her most memorable moment of the weekend, Washington immediately mentioned a speech given at the rally by Obama's wife, Michelle.

"It was so candid and so real, from the heart, off the top of her head."

Washington also took note of the personal, more intimate side of Obama.

"I know he says it on TV, but he really did look like he missed his daughters and his wife [who had to leave early]."

Obama, who is a father to six and eight-year-old daughters, announced his candidacy for the 2008 U.S. presidential election in February 2007.

## CEACS King and Queen Light Up Stage



Jerney Burkett: Staff Photographer

In a Broadway themed pageant, junior chemical engineering major Lauren Copeland and third year architecture major Marcus Johns prevailed and stole the show. Johns won the crowd with his saxophone rendition of Alicia Key's "If I Ain't Got You" while Copeland shined with her spoken word. Standing on the platform of "Capital Green," Johns proposed to promote environmental stability for a healthier environment. Copeland plans on uniting Howard University with the schools of the District of Columbia through her platform B.O.N.D.S., Bridging Ourselves with Neighboring Schools and Districts.

## HU Students Continue Jena Six Support

BY EBONI FARMER  
Deputy Campus Editor

As Howard students joined the thousands who were in Jena, La., those who remained on campus during Black Thursday did not forget to do their part.

Organizations set up tents in Blackburn to keep the momentum up on campus. Howard University Association of Black Journalists (HUABJ) will be sending giant cards signed by students

to the families of the Jena Six.

"We want to continue showing support," sophomore broadcast journalism and HUABJ member LeeSandra Alexandre said. "A lot of people may think it is over but it really isn't."

Target H.O.P.E. was helping to raise money to support the defense funds of the Jena Six.

"People have been very generous," senior English major Craig Allen said.

In addition to raising funds and moral support for the

Jena Six, students had the opportunity to sign letters that are being sent to lawmakers in Louisiana.

"We want to make sure that the leaders in Louisiana are aware that people really do care about the injustice going on their state," General Assembly Chairwoman Victoria Kirby said. "If the whole nation is surrounding this issue it puts pressure on the elected officials because they know all eyes are on them."

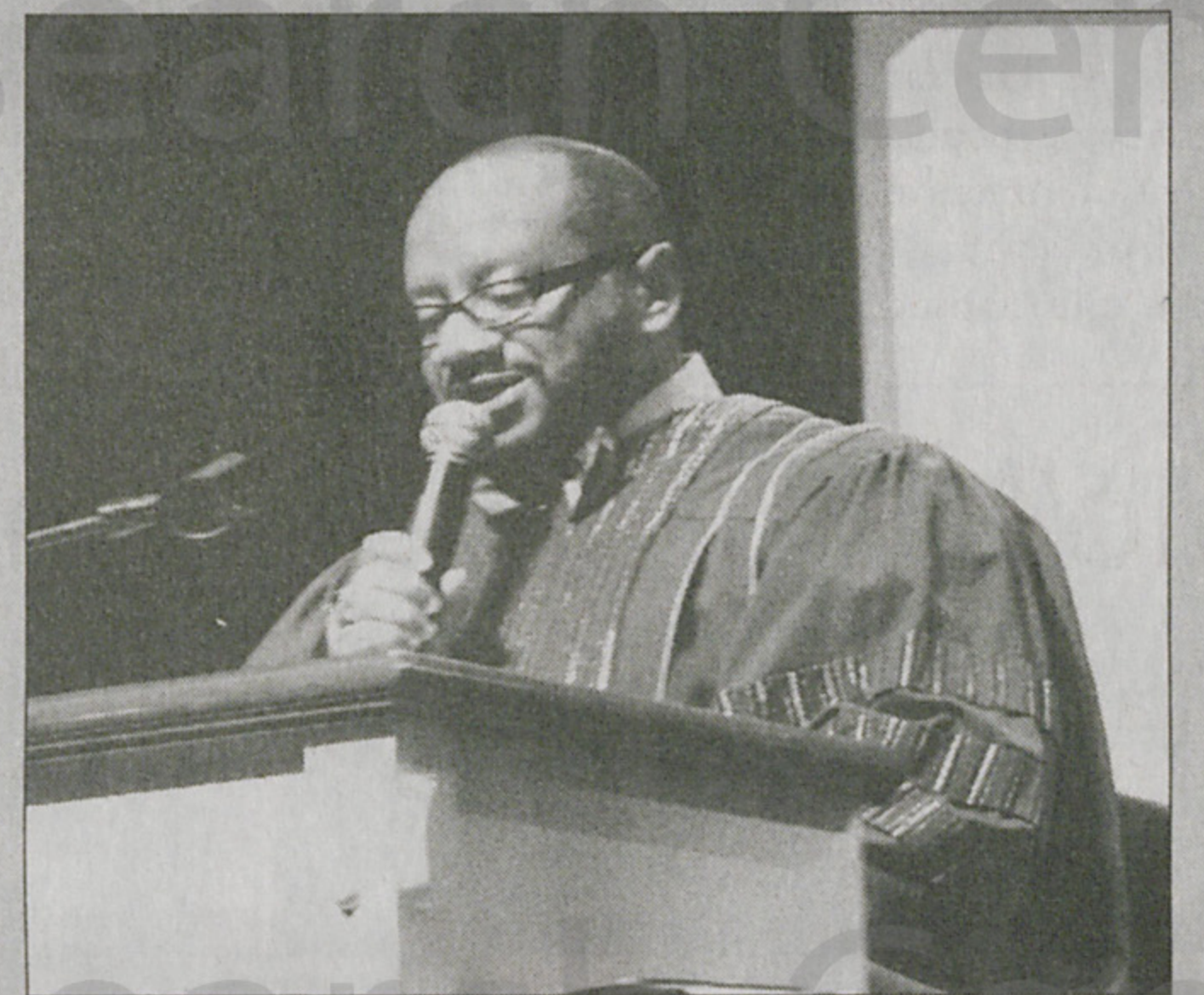
Three letters addressed to Governor Kathleen Blanco,

U.S. Attorney of Louisiana Donald Washington and 28th Judicial District of Louisiana Attorney Reed Walters.

"I feel like signing a letter is the least I can do," junior biology major David Gibson said. "Not everyone can make that commitment to travel to Jena but we all can sign a letter asking for justice."

The pre-written letters can be found on [www.colorofchange.org](http://www.colorofchange.org) and sent to the leaders at anytime.

## Chapel Recap



Jessica DeTiege: Staff Photographer

Bishop Donald Hillard delivered a powerful sermon to the congregation during chapel service on Sunday.

BY STEPHAN HALL  
Contributing Writer

Bishop Donald Hillard Jr., the senior pastor of Cathedral Second Baptist Church in Perth Amboy, N.J., delivered the message during Sunday's chapel service.

He spoke on faith and how it should be incorporated into our everyday lives. His presence on stage and his down-to-earth approach made his sermon very comforting and encouraging to all the ears in the semi-packed auditorium in Cramton.

Hilliard spoke on how certain people are in your life for seasons, and you have to know when to break away from them when the time is right.

Hilliard also touched on how today's generation wants to possess all worldly objects such as jewelry, cars and lavish houses quickly instead of waiting for tomorrow.

One of Hilliard's testimonies that touched the hearts of many who listened was his story of his "big momma", who gave him five dollars before he went off to attend college. In the end he stated that we need to be "appreciative" of every blessing that we receive.

He capped off the service with a brief snippet on how today's college generation needs to stop putting money into vulgar rap artists pockets by buying their CD's "just to

be put down by the N-Word". He said that we must stop listening to obnoxious lyrics that shed a bad light on the black race by wanting all the females, as Bishop Hilliard states, "...to drop it while it's hot".

Howard students in the crowd shared in laughter although the Bishop's message was not missed or unheard.

Morgan Brown, a telecommunications management major from Memphis, Tenn., said that "Bishop Hilliard's words were dynamic and [she] felt that he was talking directly to her in his message".

The chapel provided all attendees with a booklet which showcased the legacy of the historic Rankin Memorial Chapel. Mr. Hargett, the chapel sexton, stated that "many giants have come through Howard over the years".

The booklet included the chapel's past and present deans, and it also highlighted the powerful speakers who once graced the stage in Cramton. Names such as Cornell West, Michael Eric Dyson and Maya Angelou were featured in the booklet.

Torian Black, a mechanical engineering major from Memphis, Tenn. said that the message touched her.

"It was really inspiring that the chapel handed out the brief informational booklets of Rankin Memorial Chapel," she added.

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Jena Controversy Reveals Previously ‘Covered Up’ Racist Mentalities

Continued from FRONT, JENA

The racial inequities exposed by the Jena controversy have left many families concerned about the welfare of their children in the school system as a whole.

Carwyn’s sister said, “They want to say that there is no racism in Jena, and all this stuff like that. Well, explain to me why, after all that’s going on, you still have children in school having to go to the bathroom and look in the stall where there is a noose drawn on the wall saying, ‘Hang the Jena Six’, and ‘Hang Them High’ or ‘Niggers It’s Not Over’? And they want to say that it’s not racist, then what is it?”

“I mean, what do you say? What do you say to your children that go to this school, and [the school’s administration is] telling them ‘Don’t worry about it’ and all this? You can’t tell them that and then they walk in the bathroom and they’re seeing this on the wall,” she said.

According to the 2000 U.S. Census, Jena has a population of 2,971 where blacks account for approximately 12 percent. This ratio is proportional to the national population in which 12.3 percent of Americans are black. Yet, in a small town with a long history of racial tension, this statistic may be unnerving.

The police force in Jena is comprised of just two black officers.

“It’s like when you go into a restaurant, being black, and you walk in a place you can feel it. In most of these restaurants, if a black person walks in, you can feel everything in there because they turn around and look at you,” Carwyn’s mother said. “It’s like they want to know ‘what are you doing here?’”

According to residents of the area, the relationship between blacks and whites has not changed. “Some blacks in the south...haven’t had the same experience as you have in the city,” said the police officer. “They are used to the master/slave mentality. They’re used to being subservient.” At the same time, many blacks in Jena have become accustomed to the social climate.

“I’ve been here 25 years...it’s tolerable,” said Carwyn’s sister. “You have some white people who just can’t believe that these charges are on these kids, but they’re not going to speak up for them.”

The recent rally at Jena allowed people across the nation come together and express their support for the Jena Six and their families.

“I think it’s good because Jena really needed to find out what really goes on here, and I think this has brought up a whole lot in Jena, because there’s a lot of covering-up done here,” said Carwyn’s

mother.

“[The support] has brought me to tears because you don’t know these

people and these people are out here standing up for you. It’s amazing to just be in an atmosphere like this” Carwyn’s

sister said. “I mean, it’s great and I love turning on the TV and seeing so many people supporting the cause.”



Pauya Dianat - Atlanta Journal-Constitution (MCT)

Students from the Atlanta University Center protested in downtown Atlanta at Centennial Park. Many protesters have dubbed this event as the ‘new 21st century Civil Rights Movement.’ Young people have been active across the nation in spreading the word of the Jena “6”.

Mo’Nique Entertains Students With ‘One Night Only’ Show

Continued from FRONT, MO’NIQUE

entire crowd in tears with his active style of comedy and original, hilarious jokes.

Perry expressed his desire to return to Howard one day if it was possible but jokingly showed doubt in his abilities. “I would absolutely come back if they would have me. If I’m not funny then I’m sure they won’t have me back though,” Perry said.

The Endustry Power Players (E.P.P.) were significant in making this show a success and Steven Johnson, director of Cramton and advisor to E.P.P, admits that E.P.P and other Howard students and staff are the ones who deserve the credit for making this show possible.

“It takes many people to make a show like this a success including the staff, students, and campus police. I’m really about promoting the students because Cramton serves as a training ground for students interested in the entertainment industry,” Johnson expressed.

Even though the crowd lacked Howard students Friday night, Johnson insisted Howard students

are the main target to please when shows such as this one are planned out. “These shows are put together for the Howard community to come and enjoy. It’s primarily for the students and staff to come and get comic relief,” Johnson said.

While Johnson modestly insists that he is more of a behind the scenes person, the students who work with him are quick to disclose how instrumental he is when planning out concerts such as the show on Friday.

Britney Davis, who has been a member of E.P.P since her freshman year, was a significant person in putting this show together and credits her organization, E.P.P, with providing students with an opportunity to earn experience in a field they may be interested in. “E.P.P does a lot of the entertainment events on Howard’s campus.

It (E.P.P) gives us a chance to get experience by executing events while we’re still in college,” Davis said.

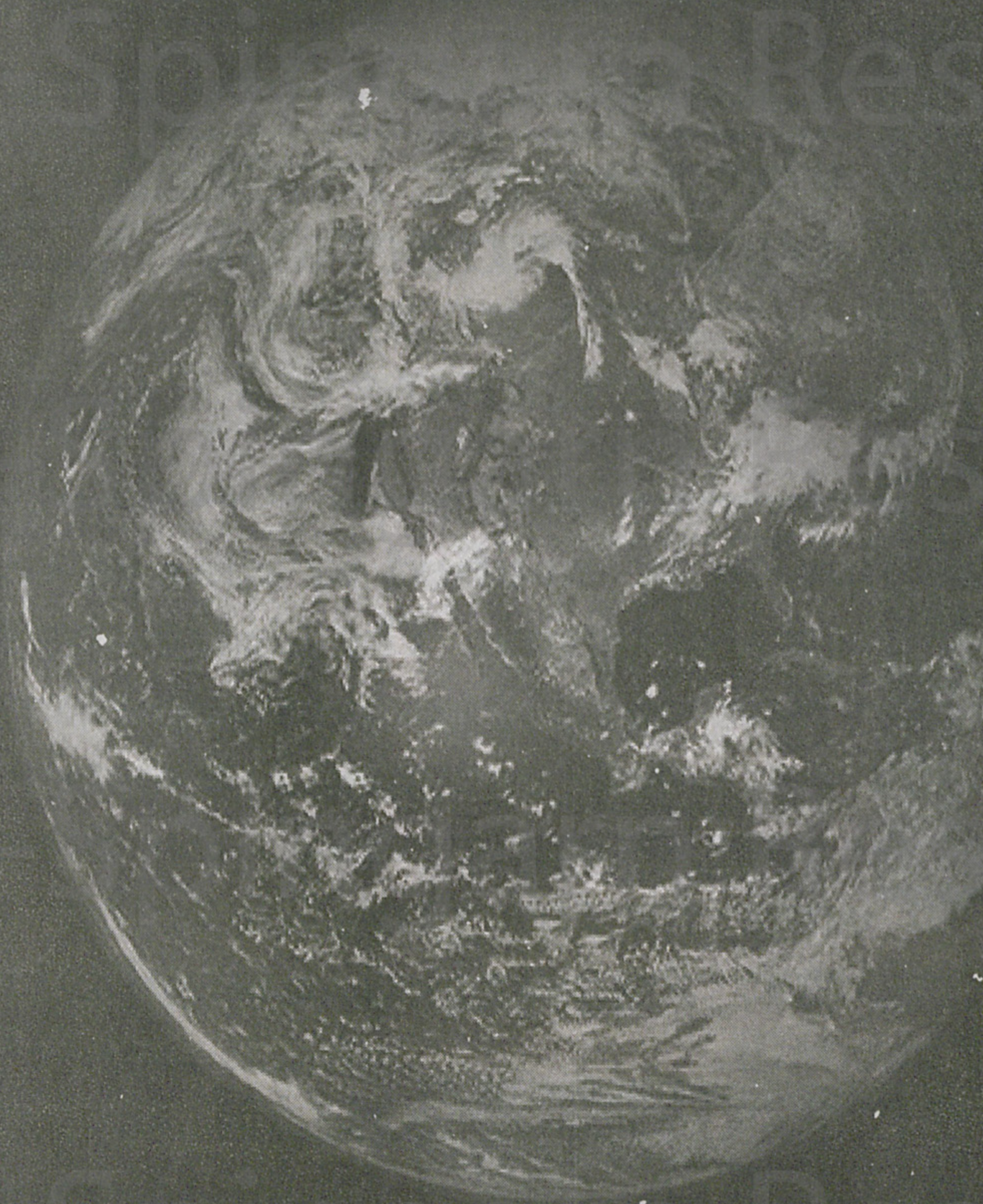
Davis encourages all students who are interested and serious about the business to come to the E.P.P interest meeting on Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. in the Fine Arts building.

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## Who's Who Among Students In American Colleges & Universities

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# AlertHU



Ad-Supported Web Site Hosts Free Downloads

BY TRANAÉ FARMER-BOSTON  
Contributing Writer

In the last few years, Internet users have been able to get what they need at the click of a mouse. From paying bills to grocery shopping online, the Internet has become a source, on which society depends.

More recently, the introduction of Web sites that allow users to download music and video files has given users access to more exclusive media files faster and earlier than they are hitting store shelves.

Last Monday, the New York-based company SpiralFrog launched its new ad-supported Web site, which allows users to legally download free audio and video content.

To cover the costs of the downloaded material, SpiralFrog uses a share of its revenue from advertisers to pay record companies for their content.

With the crackdown on illegal downloading in the recording industry, the SpiralFrog corporate Web page lists its objective as the “market-driven solution to illicit pirate file-sharing sites.”

The site gives users who flock to illegal file-sharing sites an environment where they can do it legally and free.

In order to use the Web site, users must go through a simple registration, which does

not require any credit card information. After registration, they are able to begin downloading as many files as they want.

To ensure that users do not abuse the Web site and its content, SpiralFrog requires the user to log-in at least once a month, or their downloads will lock-up and not play.

The catch to this Web site is that files downloaded from SpiralFrog.com cannot be burned on to a CD. Another factor that users should be aware of is that SpiralFrog’s media files are only compatible with Windows Media Audio files.

Therefore, the files cannot be uploaded to Apple Macintosh computers, iTunes or iPods. However, they can be uploaded to two Windows Media Audio compatible devices that support DRM.

Many people have wondered whether SpiralFrog’s concept of using advertisements as its support is, in fact, safe and legal.

In a press release, SpiralFrog’s chairman and founder Joe Mohen ensures the legality of the content provided on their Web site: “Ensuring composers and song writers are properly compensated for their creations is of paramount importance to SpiralFrog.”

On August 30, 2007, SpiralFrog inked a deal with Universal Music Publishing to allow its music to be used on the Web

site. SpiralFrog, which uses content from both Universal and other independent labels, has more than 800,000 audio files and 3,500 video files.

Over the next several months, they hope to expand to more than two million tracks.

Although it is convenient to use the Web for downloading music and videos, it has also gotten thousands of users into legal trouble with record companies

and copyright owners. Sharing media files on sites such as Limewire and Napster has caused many copyright owners to sue for online copyright infringement.

University of Maryland-College Park student Alicia Carter, a junior kinesiology major, was a victim of Limewire’s crack-down on file-swappers, and was subpoenaed for doing so.

Carter said of her actions, “I just wanted to hear new

songs — songs that were not, on iTunes or in the record store yet. I was not trying to steal them. I was not even aware that I was sharing these files illegally.”

Students, as well as their universities, have become very aware of the issues with illegal downloading, and are working intently on making sure nobody else falls into legal troubles with copy-righters and record companies.

With Web sites like Spi-

ralFrog, users do not have to worry about this because they are not able to share these files due to the Web site’s restrictions.

Carter said, “I would appreciate a site like SpiralFrog because the only reason I downloaded was to find exclusive content that was not available in stores, without having to buy the whole album.”

Joshua Gilmore, a Howard junior film major, is a hip-hop choreographer and always needs to look for the hottest new songs and videos.

He said, “SpiralFrog would be very beneficial to me because it’s a way to get new songs without having to buy them. I don’t own an iPod, so I’m not worried about user capability.”

Junior pre-physical therapy major Doienne Saab agrees with Gilmore.

“I would like the convenience of using SpiralFrog to get a preview of songs without having to buy the whole album,” Saab said. “As long as it’s legal and my playlist is exclusive, why not?”

SpiralFrog could very well emerge into a Web site that caters to the younger generation for their immediate musical needs.

As long as it stays legal, free and full of exclusive content, users may continue to download, and it may be one step towards preventing illegal downloading.



With the crackdown on illegal downloading, especially on college campuses, legal downloading sites for music and movies are becoming profitable endeavors. But, sites like SpiralFrog put restrictions on the usage of their content.

Microsoft Fined \$605 Million

BY LINSEY ISAACS  
Staff Writer

Since 1995, the world’s leading software company, Microsoft, has expanded its business through both the web and PC worlds. Having launched the competitive Internet service MSN and released dozens of computer programs, Microsoft also found time to appeal a major anti-trust case, stemming from 2004 charges from a European court. Last week, an appeals court ruling found Microsoft guilty of monopoly abuse, and the company was hit hard by a \$605 million fine in the landmark case.

Two American companies — Novell, a software corporation and Sun Microsystems, a vendor of computers and computer software — first brought attention to Microsoft’s alleged monopolistic practices in 1998 when they both claimed there was a lack of disclosure for Microsoft server information. The European Union’s (EU) Court of First Instance then noticed mainstream media’s heavy integration with Windows, which runs more than 90 percent of the world’s computers.

In March of 2004, the EU levied its harshest fine ever against Microsoft for the abuse of its dominant market position. The record \$613-million fine made turned the case into a landmark decision for anti-trust laws. The software company was also given 120 days to share server information with rival companies so their systems would be attuned with Windows, as well as another 90 days to create a new Windows program without the Windows media player.

Microsoft’s appeal of the case, though bringing the fines slightly down to \$605 million, was ultimately unsuccessful. The company is awaiting a new, final decision for the year as the EU is still charging them fines to further limit their rule.

“I would note that a lot has changed since this case started in 1998,” Senior Vice President and General Counsel Brad Smith said in a statement. “We’ve sought to be open and transparent, and we’ve sought to strengthen our ties with the rest of our industry. Indeed, it’s notable that just last week we announced a new agreement with Sun Microsystems, and the week before that we announced a new agreement with Novell, two of the

companies that started out on the other side of this case almost nine years ago.”

Among these industries, Microsoft has provided tough competition for other networks. They have ventured into the broadcasting world with NBC, consequently starting the news station MSNBC, as well as providing Internet Explorer for both Mac OS and Windows. They have additionally entered the game console world with their release of the Xbox.

“It isn’t [Microsoft’s] fault that their business is so successful,” freshman political science major Nicholas Hamilton said. “They have the most user-friendly interface. That’s why it’s being used so much.”

Other major companies may similarly face the actions taken against Microsoft. Google, which dominates the Internet advertising industry, has recently attained advertising giant DoubleClick for \$3.1 billion. Apple retains an ascendancy over digital music, while fixing the prices of their songs on iTunes. And, Intel leads in the production of computer chips. These three companies may be affected by the final decision on Microsoft’s case, since the EU also believes that their power

should be limited.

“I don’t think [Microsoft] should have been fined in the first place,” Eric Strong, a sophomore elementary education major, said. “When someone starts a business, it’s their goal to be successful and be the top. When they achieve it, others say it’s too much but that’s just the purpose of running a successful business like Microsoft.”

Either way, the Microsoft Corporation will only continue to grow after the court’s decision.

“When this case started, we published Windows in 24 European languages. Today that number is 41,” Smith said. “And it will continue to grow. When we started this case, we had 3,900 employees in Europe. Today we have 13,000, and that number will continue to grow.”

Smith continued, “When this case started, we were spending \$3 million a year on research and development in Europe. Today we are spending almost half a billion, and that number will continue to grow. Today we work with over 200,000 business partners, who employ almost 3 million people on the European continent, and that number too will continue to grow.”



Jessica DeTiege - Staff Photographer

T-Mobile users will notice their coverage expand in 2008 thanks to a merger with SunCom.

T-Mobile Billion-Dollar Merger Comes With Debt

BY LINSEY ISAACS  
Staff Writer

Wireless service provider T-Mobile USA, a wholly owned subsidiary of Deutsche Telekom AG, recently announced plans to acquire wireless network SunCom, along with an \$800-million debt.

The acquisition is intended to close within the first half of the year 2008, with T-Mobile receiving a cash payment of \$1.6 billion, according to a joint press release. Holding the top spot on J.D. Power and Associates 2007 Wireless Customer Care Performance Study for six consecutive years, T-Mobile will now expand its coverage to areas in the southeastern United States, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands with this merger.

“With the acquisition of SunCom, we will continue to implement our strategy to ‘grow abroad with mobile,’ which is part of our overall group strategy,” said René Obermann, chairman of the Board of Management of Deutsche Telekom. “At the same time, we can realize significant synergies on the cost side and improve our market presence.”

Obermann continued, “As a result, this acquisition will fit very well with our strategy to grow abroad with mobile primarily within our current footprint within the context of market consolidation.”

SunCom provides service in Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, South Carolina and North Carolina, as well as the eastern parts of Tennessee and Georgia. The diminutive company offers various calling plans with or without contracts, anytime minutes or unlimited minutes. Its features are similar to that of T-Mobile, most notably their Mobile-To-Anyone plan which includes free calls to 10 lines on any network.

These corresponding marketing platforms will ensure SunCom customers a smooth transition into the T-Mobile network, whose new myFaves feature has become the most successful offering in the history of T-Mobile, according to T-Mobile CEO Robert Dotson.

Investment funds which hold more than 50 percent of SunCom common stocks have agreed to the merge, and will receive \$27 per share in cash. SunCom customers will not be affected harshly by this fuse, either.

Some students agree that the exchange is good for both parties.

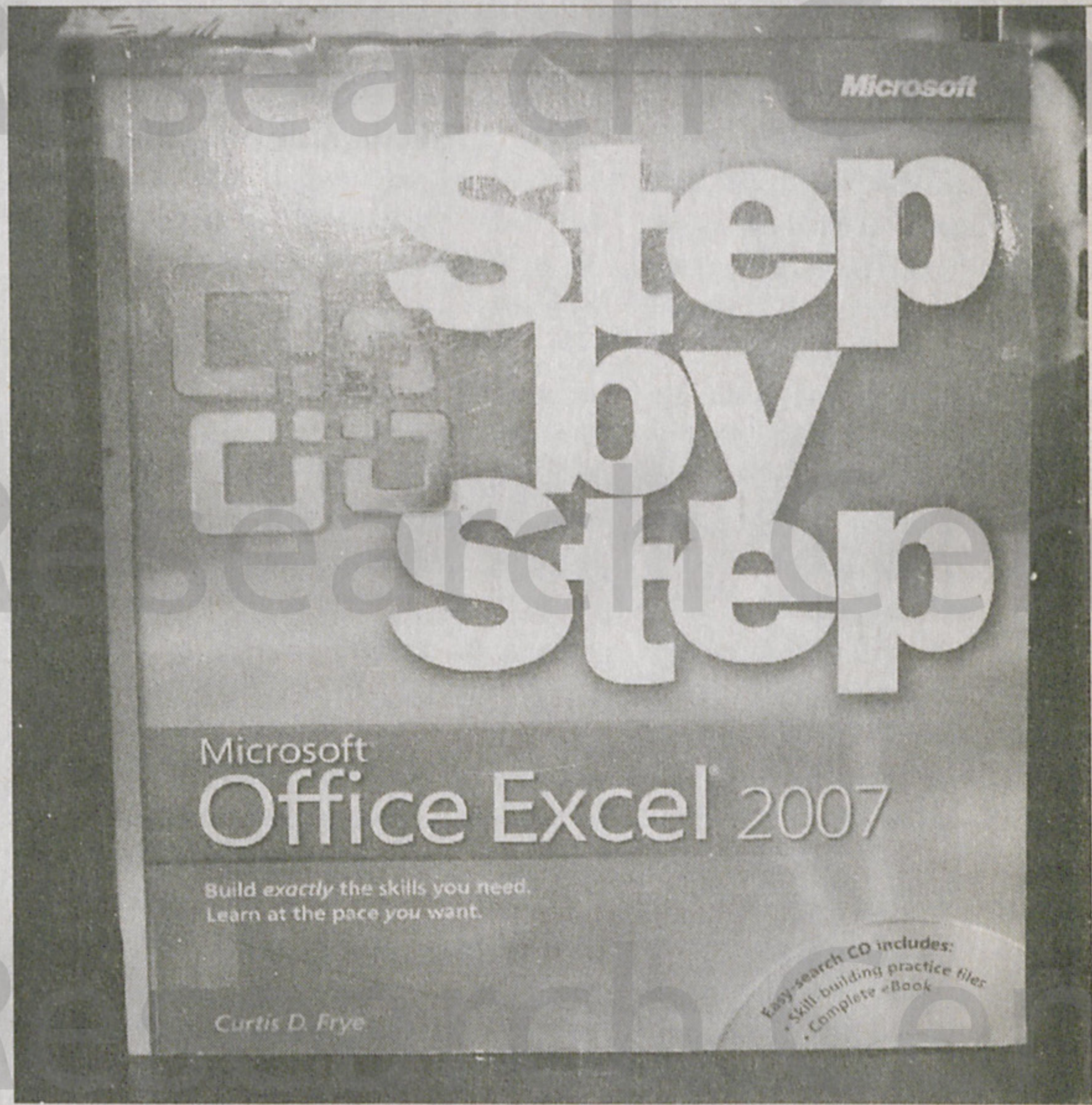
“As far as T-Mobile buying [SunCom] out,” sophomore accounting major Jason Wadley said, “if they can handle the debt and extend their coverage globally, then that’s good. It’s advertising their business.”

T-Mobile has not commented on any future merges, or what they plan to do with the \$800 million in debt they have acquired from SunCom, but gaining approximately 1.1 million new customers and extending their coverage will enhance their profits.

During the first quarter of this year, T-Mobile profited \$315 million, and SunCom gained \$242.5 million at the end of the second quarter, seemingly pleased with the decision to sell their network to T-Mobile as well.

“We are extremely pleased to be combining with T-Mobile USA,” said Michael E. Kalogris, chairman and CEO of SunCom. “[They are] a customer-focused, nationwide provider of wireless services, with whom we have been a long-time roaming partner.”

He continued, “This transaction is a testament to all that SunCom has achieved. We look forward to building on this momentum as part of T-Mobile USA.”



Tyrone Clemons - Staff Photographer


A European court ruled that Microsoft will have to pay \$605 million in fines for abusing its dominant position in the market and violating anti-trust laws.

**If money, corporate scandal or electronics spark your interest, write for The Hilltop.**

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## Issue of Homosexuality Sparks Strong Feelings at Howard



Homosexuality which has always been a taboo subject in the black community faces the same stigma on many college campuses including Howard.

BY SHANDRILYA LEWIS  
Contributing Writer

Homosexuality has been a controversial issue within the black community for years. The word itself has been known to spark heavy feelings and heated words. Black America has seemed to have the hardest time accepting the issue.

But at a progressive

place like Howard University, one would think students would be more tolerant of homosexuality.

Rahe Ervin, a junior English and biology major believes that Howard adds to the stigma attached with being gay. "I'm openly gay," Ervin said.

"And, I do not understand how a lot of Howard students can fight so hard for racial injustices such as the Jena "6" case, when the majority of them

are just mirroring the oppressor by persecuting others. As a black race, we have been stereotyped and put down for years, so I do not understand why it is so easy to put down others," he said.

Bernard Brown, a sophomore biology major agrees with Ervin's statement but also feels that he can justify it in a way.

"I've made gay jokes before. It's definitely a wrong thing to do, but people tend to

make fun of things they consider out of the norm. Homosexuality is one of those topics," he said.

Ervin does not seem to understand this logic at all.

"Why would someone choose to be gay? It's not a choice. If a person admits to being gay, they risk losing their family, friends, and other things they hold of value," he said.

That brought up another question as to why Ervin chose to reveal his sexuality if it risks so much.

"I'm not ashamed of my sexuality at all. It's a part of who I am...a part of me being Black. However, I do empathize with the people America considers 'down low'. How do you expect someone to truly be comfortable revealing their sexuality when people consider it such a taboo," he said.

Chayne Coston, a senior sports medicine major does not completely agree with Ervin.

"I think a gay person may feel that they will be alienated but innately, that's where the division starts. If you're not around something or someone a lot, you are ignorant to a lot of things that involves them," he said.

"It's not as if blacks fear gays," said Lauren Gaspard, a sophomore biology major. "Homosexuality is just really

an uncomfortable subject," she said.

Ervin believes that the uncomfortable feelings felt by the black community stems from their deeply religious backgrounds.

"Blacks as a whole are so engrained in religion. It defines how they believe and how they think," he said. "My only problem is, if you are going to stand by one guideline in your religion, you should stick by all of guidelines. These religious people are still smoking, drinking, cursing, and having premarital sex. There needs to be some sort of balance."

Dr. Greg Carr, Professor of Africana Studies, believes that religion is just the easiest excuse people can think of to explain their feelings towards homosexuality as a whole.

"People tend to hide behind the religion excuse, because it is easier. It is hard for people to understand why they dislike homosexuality outside of religion," he said.

Desmond Hutchingson, a sophomore biology major believes the reason people treat homosexuals negatively is because of the stigma associated with AIDS. "When I hear the word AIDS, homosexuals automatically come to mind," he said.

But Jessica Coleman, a sophomore legal communi-

cations major, believes that the issue goes even further than the AIDS epidemic.

"It's already hard enough to be black, but many view being gay and black as a double negative. Heterosexual black men tend to view gay men as not being strong and not having integrity. It causes people to respond with extreme disapproval," Coleman said.

In response to the statement made about blacks unjust treatment towards gays, Carr stated that blacks' negative views toward homosexuals stem from Western ideals.

"The stains of racism have caused us to pick up feelings of self contempt," Carr said. "The word 'faggot' was the term used for the sticks you put in a fire to burn people after lynching them. The world infiltrated from white society. That hurtful language comes out of a very deliberate act of physical violence. Blacks now use the word to hurt others without even thinking of why they use that particular word."

Overall, the views of the Howard community remain controversial.

"Homosexuality will not stop," Carr said. "It has been around for years, but since family structures are so different now, perceptions will slowly change over time."

## New MTV Reality Show, 'Tila Tequila' Sparks Concern

BY ALLEXTHEA I. CARTER  
Contributing Writer

First there was "The Bachelor," a supposedly elegant reality show about the quest for romance. Now reality TV has morphed into "Flavor of Love," "I Love New York," "Rock of Love" and the upcoming "A Shot with Tila Tequila."

The reality show features eight men and eight women fighting for the love of one bisexual woman, Tila Tequila. Its racy premise is stirring some controversy and causing many to think reality TV and the media have gone too far.

"To be honest, it feels like it's already been there," said Kenya D. Morris, a radio/TV/film major. "But sex sells. The media knows that and that's how she put herself out there, [it's rumored] she had half naked pictures of herself on Myspace and people fell for it."

Senior TV production major Jesusemen Edozo said, "Reality TV has never been reality. It has only been for entertainment. With reality, everything deals with extremes. When they cast these shows they look for people who fall into a certain mold and they put them in situations that cause drama, like rooming a conservative with a

lesbian."

Edoro also thinks the media is a direct reflection of the moral state of the country. [When it comes to what's on TV] "You're looking at yourself in the mirror, but its magnified," he said.

Some believe society is more accepting of homosexuality nowadays, or at least more tolerant of it. "A gay couple isn't taboo anymore," senior psychology major Kaosy Ulehat said. "But it depends on the community. Some people in society accept it, while others are kind of indifferent."

Morris said, "[It's] tolerated. Just like affirmative action, white people don't like it, but they tolerate it because they don't want to be seen in a negative light."

Some speculate that Isaiah Washington was dismissed from "Grey's Anatomy" because of his homosexual slur.

"I think society is just torn about it," Edozo said. "Everybody is split on the issue."

Journalism professor Clint C. Wilson II said, "The media always reflects society. It always wants to be on the front fringe. The rationale is money. These kinds of shows are cheap to produce. The investment is minimum compared to investing in high quality talent. Cheap to produce, and it

can apply to a certain group."

He thinks the reason a network might air a show like Tequila's is because the prominence of the gay community.

"Gay people are starting to assert themselves. Networks don't want to offend anyone. They're saying 'We're OK with gay people.' For instance, the Imus situation—he wasn't fired until sponsors started to pulling out."

Some believe the art of romance has been cheapened by reality television. "Definitely, when something is glamorized it loses its significance," Morris said. "When everyone gets their hands on it, it's no longer treasured."

Others see it a different way. "I don't think so. It's not real romance, it's just staged," Ulehat said. "It's just stuff to make money."

So has the media really gone too far or is society going in that direction?

"I understand people enjoy that [reality TV] but I'm an individual, and I don't allow those shows in my life. I don't have to fall into that audience," Edozo said.

Wilson said, "It just seems to me that there is more sexual freedom, if the media didn't cause it then it has certainly gone hand to hand with it. History will show that the media will go as far as the people will allow it."



Several celebrity couples, including Kimora and Russell Simmons, broke up in the past year serving as examples of the rise in divorce rates in the country.

## Strength of Black Marriages Examined

BY KRISTEN M. PRICE  
Contributing Writer

Back in 1984, millions of television viewers were first introduced to a family full of humor, love and for once, what seemed to be a successful marriage in the African-American community.

To this day, "The Cosby Show" remains the sitcom that people across the world can refer to when they need an ounce of what it takes to be the 'perfect' family.

Unlike Cliff and Clair Huxtable, it seems that many black marriages are not lasting.

With the splits of famous black couples such as powerhouse couple Russell and Kimora Lee Simmons and more recently Shaquille O'Neal and his estranged wife Shaunie, many young people are beginning to lose hope in being in a long-term relationship.

Cierra Ross, a junior mechanical engineering major, believes celebrity marriages usually don't last.

"People, especially celebrities, usually jump too quick into marriages," Ross said. "They take the things they want to know and don't want to see the flaws."

Ross's parents have been married for 29 years.

"I think my parents met young. They have an understanding about each other."

Diane Sollee, founder

and director of The Coalition for Marriage, Family and Couples Education in Washington, D.C., said she helps couples prevent divorce by reinforcing basic information on what it takes to be in a marriage, such as vows and commitments.

The creator of smart-marriages.com also mentions that when children are involved, it is better off for the parents to live unhappily married than to separate.

"The longer a couple stays married, the better off for the kids," Sollee said.

She also said that couples need to understand that it is normal to disagree with one another or argue.

According to an article released by the Associated Press in May, both divorce and marriage rates have dropped significantly from previous years, since more couples are deciding to live together long-term without the title.

Sophomore communications major Erica Burton said some major problems in marriages include the issues of money and the growing number of single parents.

"In the black community, a lot of people don't want to get married anymore," Burton said. "As the saying goes, 'Why buy the cow if you can get the milk for free?'"

According to Sollee, to have a stable family unit it is always good for couples to learn what to expect within a relationship, including identifying behaviors that predict success and failure.

"Research shows that it's almost always women who will say 'We need to talk,' while men are usually the ones who will avoid fights," she said.

"One way of keeping a good relationship is knowing how to manage conflict."

In order for relationships to work out in the long run, Ross said couples need to learn to accept the differences that their mate may have.

"It definitely takes understanding and tolerance of different personalities," Ross said.

Sollee, who is also a marriage and family therapist, advises that all generations, regardless of race should continue to have hope in having a successful relationship.

"I believe there's hope, but we have to really work on our mentalities for how families work," Ross said. "We can't be the next Huxtables until we're ready for that commitment."



MTV's newest reality show "Tila Tequila" is being compared to "Flavor of Love," but more raunchy, as the bisexual model/entertainer searches for love.



# Lady Bison Break to Buffalo



Jessica DeTiege - Staff Photographer  
Women's soccer lost their second home game this season Sunday.

BY Z'KERA SIMS  
Staff Writer

The Howard Lady Bison soccer team suffered another loss to the Lady Bulls of the University at Buffalo in the eighth non-conference match up of the season.

The Lady Bulls set the pace of the game when their own Heidi Griffith drove the ball down the middle of the field to score in the 14th minute of the first half. The second score came at the 33:36 mark of the match up when Lady Bull, Brooke McCalla passed the ball to wide open teammate Caitlin Higgins who shot and made her first goal of the season firing the ball directly into the right side of the net.

Jessamyn Perkins, goalkeeper for the Lady Bison made an astonishing seven saves for the day. While Lady Bull goalkeeper, Amy Coron, managed to shut the Bison out, marking her first shut out

for the season. She recorded four saves for the day. The Lady Bison were outshot by the Lady Bulls 16-8, and managed to dominate in corner kicks, 7-3.

"We played a lot better then we have been playing in the past few games," Perkins said. "We are a defensive team, we need to become more of an offensive team. We need to tighten up the midfield to help with our scoring problems."

While the Lady Bulls pulled off the win, they committed 15 fouls and 12 offside penalties for the game. On the contrary, the Lady Bison had eight and two for the day, respectively.

"Communication is key," Perkins said. "We communicated a lot better."

Looking for their first win of the season in a conference match up the Lady Bison take on Utah Valley State on Wednesday Sept. 26 at 2 p.m. in Greene Stadium.

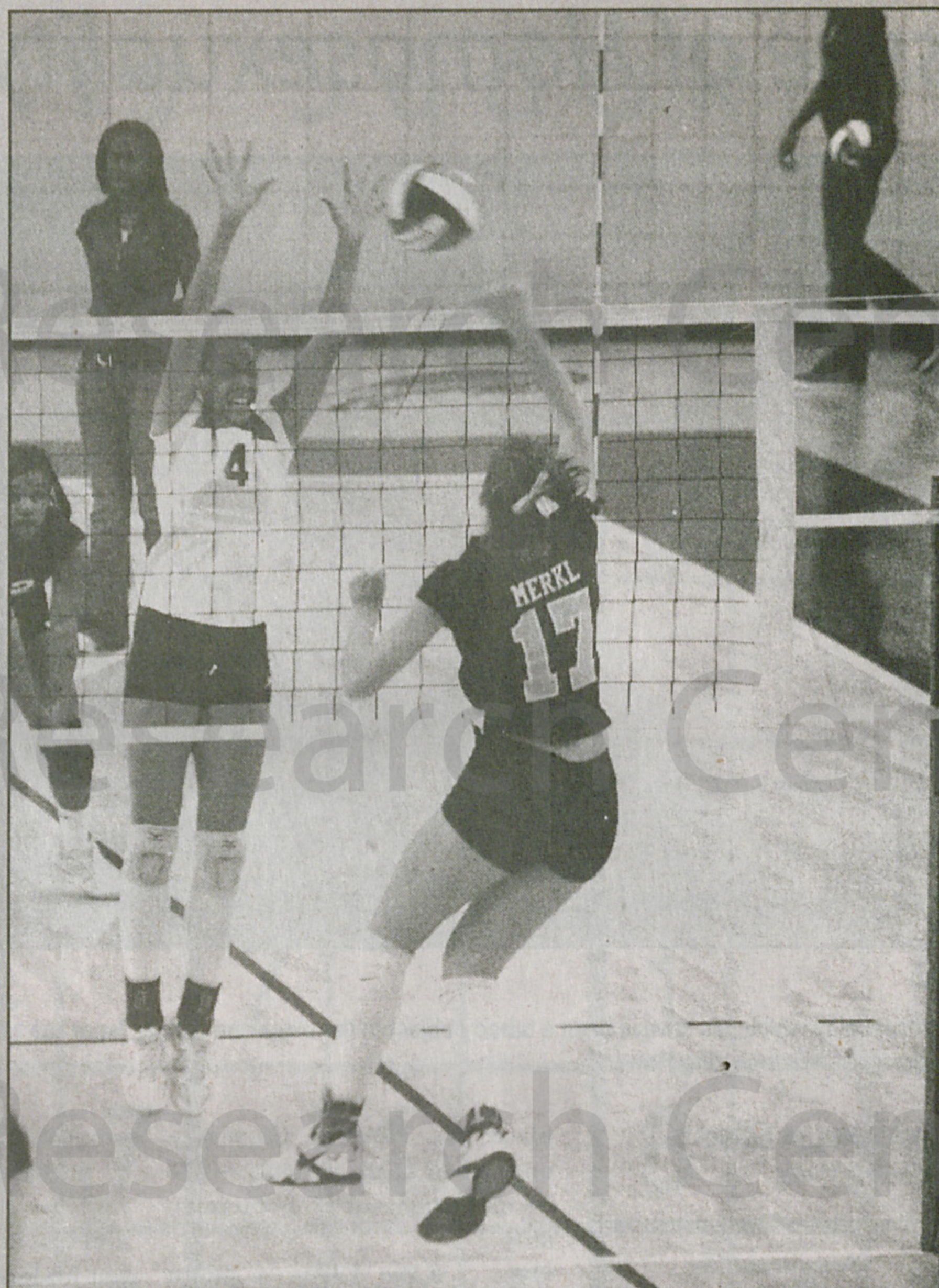


Photo Courtesy of All Pro Photo

The Lady Bison volleyball team garnered their first win Saturday against Coppin State.

## First Win Brings Confidence to Rest of Volleyball Season

The Howard volleyball team got its first victory of the season as they swept Coppin State 3-0 (30-28, 30-19, 30-28) Saturday afternoon on the final day of the St. Francis (PA) Red Flash Invitational.

Senior Morgan Maxwell paced the Lady Bison with 21 kills and a .349 hitting percentage (21-6-43). Junior Janel James added a double-double of 11 kills and 10 digs while freshman Gazelle d'Artois chipped in with 41 set-assists and 12 digs.

Freshman Keri Partridge and junior Elyssa Lee contributed six kills each.

The Lady Eagles got 16 kills from Indira Laurencin. Danyel Davis and Brittany Arvin added double-digit dig totals with 14 and 10 while Lauren Lacey finished with 24 set-assists.

HU went 1-2 in the two-day tournament, losing matches to the host Red Flash (3-0: 30-25, 30-16, 30-24) and Robert Morris (3-0: 30-20, 30-14, 30-19).

Maxwell was named to the All-Tournament team after totaling 32 kills and 22 digs in three matches.

Howard also faced off with La Salle today in a regular season match and lost a 3-0 (30-23-30-15, 30-22) decision to the Explorers.

James led the Bison in that match with eight kills. Maxwell chipped in with six kills while Nicole Brown added a match-high 13 digs on the defensive end.

Rachel Stemper paced La Salle with 17 kills. Amy McKeon finished with 12 kills while Stephanie Owen contributed 10.

The Lady Bison (1-15) return to action on Sept. 26 when they open MEAC play against Hampton at the Convocation Center.

-- Courtesy of Howard Sports Information

## TODAY IN SPORTS HISTORY

SEPTEMBER 24, 1938

**DON BUDGE BECOMES THE FIRST TENNIS PLAYER TO HIT A GRAND SLAM.**

## Cross-Country Team Places Among Top Five

The Howard men's and women's cross country teams had good outings at the Cappy Anderson Invite this weekend as both squads placed in the Top 5 in the team standings.

The men's team took third with 68 points and were led by Thurman Sanders, last week's MEAC Performer of the Week. The Philadelphia native crossed the line in 28:22.07, good for eighth overall while Michael Gallion and Jerod Franklin were not too far behind after taking 10th in 28:38.00 and 11th in 28:40.08, respectively.

Richard Williams also finished in the top 20 for the Bison after crossed the line in 29:58.05.

George Johnson (30:27.81) and Jamin Lundy (32:22.03) also turned in good performances for Howard.

The Lady Bison finished fourth in the team standings with 80 points and were paced by Ashley Hodges and Jessica Neal. The pair crossed the line in 18:27.07 and 18:39.04, respectively, to earn fourth and sixth place finishes.

Brittany Jackson took 16th in 20:18.04 to round out the top 20 for the women.

Charisse Bullock (21:33.07) and Azalia King (21:49.01) also crossed the line for the Lady Bison.

Howard returns to action this weekend at the Spiked Shoe Invitational on Sept. 29.

-Courtesy of Howard Sports Information

# Bison Lose Steam on the Road Against Eastern Michigan

BY MATTHEW COOPER  
Deputy Sports Editor

The good news for the Howard Bison is that they out-gained Eastern Michigan 434 yards to 329, outrushed the Eagles 257 to 115, and had 28 first downs to Eastern Michigan's 14, plus the Showtime Marching Band had Rynearson Stadium rocking and "cranking that Soulja Boy."

The bad news is that the Bison football team, plagued by five unintelligent turnovers, nine penalties and a myriad of silly special teams mishaps, dropped their third game of the season, losing 38-15 to the FBS (football bowl subdivision, formerly division I-A) team.

"You can't win with five turnovers," said head coach Carrey Bailey. "I don't care if you are playing Cardozo high school."

The Bison (0-3) were able to drive down the football field with ease because of an amazing performance by quarterback Brian Johnson, in which he passed for 167 yards and two touchdowns, and ran for an additional 136 yards, making Eastern Michigan (2-2) defenders grab nothing but air because of the way he slipped and sliced through the defense.

Johnson accounted for three turnovers in the red zone in the first half. A more efficient performance offensively and defensively was offset by the mistakes that cost points for Howard.

"We went back to fundamentals today," said safety Randall Means who had seven tackles. "Without field position and special teams, you can't win

the game."

The first turnover occurred on the opening kickoff, where Eastern Michigan kicker Zach Johnson kicked a directional kick that straddled the Howard sideline as if the ball would go out of bounds. It was, however, a trick play by the Eagles, and Eagle defensive back Dwayne Harrison sprinted down the field to recover the football before the confused Bison return men had a chance to figure out what was going on.

"We felt there were holes in Howard's special teams, and we took advantage of it the first play of because of where the sun was," said EMU head coach Jeff Genyk.

The Eagles scored a touchdown two plays later, with a 7-yard run by tailback Pierre Walker.

Johnson answered back by leading the Bison back down the field, with his combination of running and passing. He was helped in the running game by two converted wide receivers to tailbacks, Leonard Moore and Terry Perry. Their speed in the backfield allowed them to hit the holes quickly for big gains. Perry had nine carries for 43 yards, and Moore had 46 yards on seven carries. The drive was stalled on the EMU 12-yard line after Johnson was sacked and stripped by Eastern Michigan defensive lineman Eric Young.

Later in the first quarter Johnson led another long drive, going 10 plays down the field to get to EMU's 8-yard line. The hard work for the Bison offense was negated when Johnson rolled



Courtesy of Matt Shaw

Bison quarterback Brian 'BJ' Johnson helped the Bison run the field, however was not able to lead the Bison to win.

out of the pocket to throw an interception across the field in to the hands of Eagle defensive back Ryan Dornard.

Special teams mishaps again haunted the Bison.

In the second quarter, punter Sebry Nuru shanked a punt for only 15 yards that landed at the Howard 30-yard line. Eastern Michigan capitalized with a field goal. A fake punt run by

Martin Corniffe was stuffed, and Eastern Michigan capitalized with a 22-yard touchdown pass from Andy Schmitt to Dwayne Priest to go up 17-0. Brian Johnson was the punter for the remainder of the game.

At the close of the half Johnson led a convincing drive down the field to reach the EMU 29-yard line.

Johnson however was

crushed by linebacker Daniel Holtzclaw while dropping back to pass, and the ball flew high in the air to be intercepted by cornerback Lyle Garrison, going in to the half with the lead.

Holtzclaw led the Eagle defense with 19 tackles.

"I made too many mistakes, I was trying to do too much," said Johnson about his performance.

EMU took the second half kick-off and marched down the field with authority with Andy Schmitt's passing, who had 214 yards and four touchdown passes for the game. He ended the drive with a 4-yard touchdown lob to tight end Ken Bohnet, where an off sides call and a pass interference call against the Bison couldn't help Howard keep the ball out of the end zone.

Further on in the third, poor special teams found the Bison again, as Larry Duncan muffed a punt at Howard's 35-yard line. Eastern answered immediately with Schmitt throwing a 35-yard touchdown lob to a wide open Tyrone Burke, taking the score to 31-0.

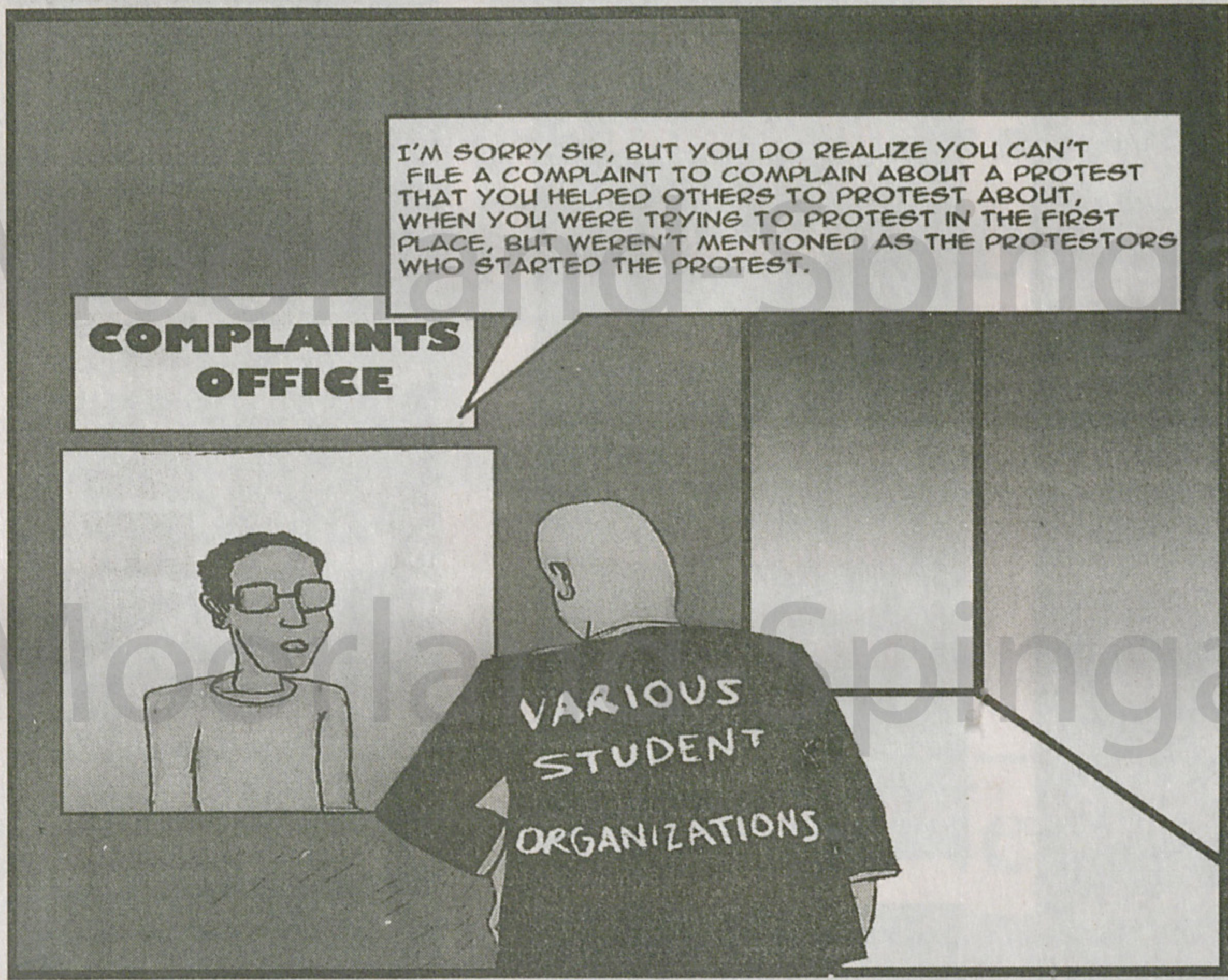
The Bison were able to find the end zone after that, with Johnson throwing an 11-yard touchdown to Jarahn Williams, and in the fourth quarter finding Michael Harper down the sideline for a 27-yard touchdown pass. It was too late, however to overcome the many mistakes made earlier.

Johnson wowed the crowd with his ability to create big plays out of potential bad situations.

"He is a tremendous athlete. Imagine what he would be like if he was at a MAC conference school for 4 years with the same coach," said Coach Genyk. "But he is a little careless with the football and we took advantage of it."

Howard will seek their first win Saturday back home at Greene Stadium against the Winston-Salem State Rams, at 1:00 p.m.





Marcus Bird - Cartoonist

Groups Seek Solidarity Shout Outs

Thursday, Sept. 20, a bus load of Howard students, as well as students from other schools and members of various organizations, attended the rally against racial injustice in Jena, La. In opposition to the racist legal system of the small LaSalle Parish town.

Although the Jena incident occurred in such a small town, the racism displayed by the legal system there brought the issue home to many African Americans who feel that legal systems in America are set up to trap and punish African Americans.

The rally was a movement that should have united the campus community as well as the African-American community. However, a section editor at *The Hilltop* was recently contacted and asked why their group didn't get a "shout out" in an article detailing Howard's presence at the rally.

The actions of certain groups and individuals make it appear as if the Jena Six cause is being used for some as a rallying point primarily to promote their own organization's name and to gain publicity for themselves as activists.

Even if that is not the case, seeking recognition for civic activism is selfish when taken into

consideration that racism and injustice is something every Howard student is expected to speak out against anyway.

Not only is this selfish, but it is also an insult to what the Jena Six rally was meant to be and the foundation of peaceful protesting against racial injustice.

During the rally itself, various groups could be seen holding up signs with messages to the young men and to the legal system of Jena.

**Our View:**  
*The cause of a movement is more important than who gets the credit.*

It would be tactless if organizations were spotted holding signs with their own organization's name or holding signs with slogans such as "We Started It!"

During the Civil Rights Movement of the 50s and 60s, it would be seen as absurd if various groups or individuals clamored to get their own "shout out" in any publication for taking action that is already viewed as the responsibility of anyone affected by racism.

Organizations wanting to be praised individually for taking part in the Jena rally is an

unfortunate eye opener.

It shows that in today's society, more value is placed on personal recognition for appearing to be a concerned citizen than the actual outcome of being involved in addressing the issues that affect our lives.

It is great that different campus groups were aware of the situation in Jena and were vigilant as to the outcome of the cases, but doing so only to gain public recognition cheapens what the movement should have been about.

The demonstration in Jena was, among other things, a show of solidarity against racial injustice in the town's legal system.

The definition of solidarity is "unity based on shared interests, objectives or standards."

Sharing objectives and interests means sharing the credit if the goal is accomplished, not seeking your own 15 minutes of fame.

Any group looking for individual praise for their involvement in the Jena Six demonstration, or any rally of concerned citizens, should remember that movements are about the cause itself, not who gets the credit.

It would be wrong to forget that a person is molded from their life experiences and interactions; so without Alain Locke having his interactions in the gay community, there would be no doubt that while he would have been a man of great achievements, there would be absolutely no way that he could have been the philosopher and professor that he was during his time.

Common sense seems to say that to deny the acknowledgement of Locke being gay along with being all the other adjectives that described him, would be to deny another young black gay child their ability to see that they too can achieve great things that few can even imagine possible.

Thirty or forty years ago we needed figures such as W.E.B. Dubois, Alain Locke, Langston Hughes and Martin Luther King, Jr. to show us that great things could be accomplished even if you were black, but today we need the StaceyAnne Chin's of the world to show our children being gay is not a death sentence to all the possibilities of their lives.

Please understand that this not an issue of the gay community trying to claim Alain Locke as their own.

But it is most certainly about trying to insure that our community realizes that embracing diversity, instead of trying to conceal it, will be what continues to thrust the black empowerment movement forward.

-Kea'nia Gulley

Daily Sudoku

Directions:

Each row, each column, and each 3x3 box must contain each and every digit 1-9 exactly once.

		3		7	8			
								4
			5			2	7	9
6	4		7			1		5
		7		1		6		
2		1			5		4	7
1	3	5			2			
4								
			6	5		4		

Do you want to write for The Hilltop?

Come to our budget meeting

MONDAY @ 7P.M.

WEST TOWERS (PLAZA LEVEL)

THE HILLTOP

"The Nation's Only Black Daily Collegiate Newspaper"

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*The Hilltop encourages its readers to share their opinions with the newspaper through letters to the editor or perspectives. All letters should include a complete address and telephone number and should be sent electronically on our Web site at [www.thehilltoponline.com](http://www.thehilltoponline.com).*

*Any inquiries for advertisements or Hilltopics should be directed to The Hilltop Business Office.*

**The Hilltop**

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Now in its 84th year, *The Hilltop* is published Monday through Friday by Howard University students. With a readership of more than 7,000, *The Hilltop* is the largest black collegiate newspaper in the nation.

The opinions expressed on the Editorial & Perspectives page are the views of the The Hilltop Editorial Board and those of the authors and do not necessarily represent Howard University or its administration.

*The Hilltop* reserves the right to edit letters for space and grammatical errors and any inappropriate, libelous or defamatory content. All letters must be submitted a week prior to publication.

Perspective

Alain Locke Celebration Omits His Sexual Orientation

Harlem Renaissance leader, philosopher and professor; these are the attributes that are acknowledged when walking through the halls of the Alain Locke building; and this week there is a host of programs to honor this man and his accomplishments.

But a quintessential question that resonates on the hearts of many, is how can you celebrate Alain Locke without first honoring or at least acknowledging all of who he was a gay black Harlem Renaissance leader, philosopher and professor.

Being a conservative private university, Howard would like to over shadow the aspect of Locke's sexual orientation and avert everyone's attention to more socially acceptable parts of his life, such as being the first black Rhodes Scholar.

But in much of the same way this notable accomplishment brings pride to the black community, the gay community would also be proud to discover that Locke was the first gay Rhodes Scholar.

Despite many requests to the planning committee at Howard and the Association of American Rhodes Scholars, who are holding this event, the issue of Alain Locke being gay will not be provided to the very community that preaches about equality and acceptance for everyone.

With this disturbing knowledge, it seems more than safe to assert that the hiding of Locke's sexual orientation at this event is merely the offspring of a deeper problem that we have as a black

community.

It is unquestionable that the black community is, and perhaps has always been, a society based on the foundation of "don't ask don't tell," and in many ways this very sentiment is the tumor killing the upward movement of our community.

Since before Alain Locke even emerged on the scene, we as a people have been fighting a struggle of trying to solidify ourselves as being just as adequate, if not better than, our white counterparts.

This struggle has forced us to put the movement of the black community as a whole above the needs of certain sub-groups inside of our community.

For instance, there have been many reports, as can be seen in the documentary "NO," where some raped or abused African-American women have been made to feel as if they should not speak out about what they have endured because some believe that by bringing attention to the issue, the black movement would be stalled due to people that would be to think we are less than equal.

And many people who feel this way share the same ideologies about the gay and lesbian sub-group, but my question is, when did we become so consumed with the black movement that we forgot the people in it?

Let's not get confused, because it is more than certain that some are wondering what does Locke being gay have to do with his achievements, and quite simply the answer is everything.



## CLASSIFIEDS

The Hilltop prints Hilltopics every Monday, Wednesday and Friday. The first 20 words are \$10 and .25 for each additional word.

ALL CLASSIFIED ADS MUST BE PAID FOR AND SUBMITTED SEVEN DAYS IN ADVANCE.

**\$5 LATE FEE FOR ALL CLASSIFIED ADS NOT SUBMITTED SEVEN DAYS IN ADVANCE.**

Payment acceptable Cashier's check or money order . Any questions please contact

The Hilltop Business Office (202) 806-4749 or by e-mail [www.hilltopbusiness@gmail.com](mailto:www.hilltopbusiness@gmail.com)

### Target H.O.P.E Week

September 23-28, 2007

Sunday: Call to Chapel

Monday: Meet and Greet in Drew Hall

Tuesday: Health day @ Bruce Monroe

Wednesday: Game Night in the Blackburn Rec. Center

Thursday: Ice Cream Social @ Maggie Moos

Friday: Skating Party

All activities commence @ 7:03pm

The Ladies of Alpha Chapter, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc

present  
Delta Week 2007  
The Paradigm:  
Exemplifying Greatness to Stimulate Cultural Change

SUN 9/23/07  
Call to Chapel  
11:00am  
Cramton Auditorium

MON 9/24/07  
Sell Out: The Impact of Not Giving BLACK  
7:00pm  
Medical School Auditorium

TUE 9/25/07  
Literally Speaking: Why Can't Our Children Read?  
7:00pm  
Blackburn Auditorium  
& Non-Profit Org.  
Recruitment Fair  
12pm-2pm

WED 9/26/07  
The Eye of the Beholder: Recognizing the Beauty of Our Ancestry  
7pm  
Location TBA

THU 9/27/07  
Deep Cleanse: Remodeling Your Lifestyle to Reshape Your Life  
7pm  
Blackburn Forum

FRI 9/28/07  
Politics As Usual: Ethics in the Political Arena  
7pm  
Blackburn Reading Lounge  
Book Drive  
All Week

Alpha Phi Omega National Service Fraternity, Zeta Phi Chapter

### Rush Week 2007

"Brotherhood is the very price and condition of man's survival."  
-Carlos P. Romulo

Sept. 24, Monday

(Informational)  
"Learning from the Bruhs"  
7:25 Locke Auditorium  
Business Casual

Sept. 25, Tuesday

(Relationship Forum)  
"I Need You To Survive"  
7:25 Locke Auditorium  
Business Casual

Sept. 26, Wednesday

(Game Night)  
Fun and Games  
7:25 Game Room, Blackburn Casual

Sept. 27, Thursday

(Formal Rush)  
"A Time To Reflect"  
7:25 Blackburn Auditorium  
Business Formal

## Arts and Sciences

Presents:

Monday:

Meet ASSC at

Maggie Moos.

ASSC visibility day...

wear your shirts

The best deals

for HU students

looking for off campus housing,

rent is

650.00

a month

including utilities:

Contact

Mr. Fowler

202- 607- 3232

## NSCS

First General Body

Meeting: Tuesday

September 25, 2007:

7 PM Browsing Room of Founder's library

Phi Sigma Pi National Honor Fraternity Inc..

Alpha Tau Chapter Presents

Rush Week 2007

September 24th-29th

FLASHBACK: Visions of Purple and Gold

60's Monday 9/24 Meet Night II Blackburn 148-150

70's Tuesday 9/25 looking to the Past for the future Blackburn Gallery lounge

80's Wednesday 9/26 Dancing with the Brothers Annex Seminar Room

Thursday 9/27 Formal Rush Chemistry Auditorium

90's Friday Movie Night Locke Hall Auditorium

00's Saturday Community Service

\* All Events Begin at 7:16pm

## Come add to an 83-year-old legacy!

The Hilltop has filled most positions in the editorial and business offices, but there are still a few open slots. Below are the ONLY remaining positions:

Online Editor

Layout Editor

Graphic Designer

Photo Assistants (2)